



***Town of Tyngsborough
Board of Selectmen***
25 Bryants Lane,
Tyngsborough, Massachusetts 01879-1003
Office: (978) 649-2300

MINUTES OF AMBULANCE STUDY COMMITTEE

May 27, 2015

Members Present: Arthur Michaud – Board of Fire Engineers
Catherine Gabriel – Capital Asset Management Committee
David Carney – Citizen-at-large

Also in Attendance: Kerry Colburn-Dion – Town Treasurer/Finance Coordinator

Members Absent: William Gramer – Board of Selectmen
Darryl Wickens – Finance Committee

7:20 p.m. - Meeting called to order.

Agenda Item #1 – Review and approve previous meeting minutes

No old minutes to review at this session.

Agenda Item #2 – Guest speaker Jeff Tassi of Comstar Ambulance Billing Service.

The director of business development at Comstar stated that their ambulance billing company was founded in 1984, employees approximately 55 employees, and currently works with approximately 210 municipalities with 120 of those in Massachusetts.

Mr. Tassi described the present ambulance billing environment in our state including the differences in forecasting payments received dependency on several factors:

- Emergency transport category: Basic and Advanced life support
- Billing rate
- Payer type: Private insurance, Federal Medicare/Medicaid, State Health Connector plans, Auto insurance, No insurance
- Self-pay: Co-pay amounts, insurance deductibles, Income levels & state laws

Revenue forecast models discussed:

1. An average collected per EMS transport is \$522 based on 12 month actuals when combining approximately 120 Mass municipalities. Note that billings rates vary from approximately \$600 to \$1,200 for BLS.
2. Focusing on communities that better reflect our location and demographics results in an average collected per EMS transport of \$769. Billing rates vary from approximately \$1,000 to \$1,200 range.

Electronic patient care reporting software: Comstar supports EMS Software packages that are NEMSIS compliant (National EMS Information System). There are many compliant solutions available from which Tyngsboro may choose to fit our needs. Comstar does offer a leasing program for one of the software packages and it involves a monthly fee, plus a small charge per electronic patient care report (ePCR).

Agenda Item #3 – Establish objectives for next meeting.

The Chairman recommended that we look to obtain additional historic EMS transport data for discussion at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #4 – Schedule next meeting.

No action taken at this meeting.

8:05 p.m.

David: Motion to adjourn

Catherine: 2nd the motion

Passes: 3-0-0

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Art Michaud, Chair